

Financial Grants

January-December 2020

In 2020, 5% of annual pledges received were designated by Vestry for Outreach as well as income from the semi-Annual Parish Book Sale and were distributed as Outreach grants on behalf of the Parish. Grants focus on those non-profits with whom we maintain a ministry. Grants are also accorded to non-profits suggested by and with whom individual parishioners maintain a volunteer relationship. Last, but certainly not least, selected non-profits that support the community within our chosen areas of focus but with whom we cannot or do not yet have a sustained parish ministry are also considered for grants.

Becoming an Anti-Racist Parish

Four Directions Development Cooperation - \$500
Maine Initiatives Foundation - \$500
Maine Council of Churches - \$1000

Food Insecurity

Greater Portland Family Promise - \$500
Cooking for Community - \$500
Falmouth Food Pantry - \$500
Cumberland Food Pantry - \$250

New Mainers

In Her Presence - \$1565
St Elizabeth's Jubilee Center- \$1000
Welcoming the Stranger - \$500

At Risk Youth

Friends of Long Creek Development Center - \$1000
The Opportunity Alliance – MaineStay Prog. - \$500

The Recovery Community

Maine Recovery Fund - \$500
Milestone Recovery - \$1000
The Yellow Tulip Project - \$414

International Humanitarian

Community Life Centers of Haiti - \$700
Konbit Sante - \$500

Outreach at Saint Mary's

The Outreach Committee offers Saint Mary's parishioners the opportunity individually and as parish groups to put prayer into action as we serve those in need in our community. The pandemic continues to change the HOW, but not the WHY of Outreach at Saint Mary's. Operating within the needed public health requirements, Outreach at Saint Mary's will continue to be a source, an extension, and a product of our developing relationship with God, as we marry prayer and action to nurture relationships with those beyond our campus, with a particular focus on the marginalized.

In addition, the committee continues to provide financial assistance annually to the materially and socially distressed in the community near and far through targeted grants to non-profit organizations addressing their needs.

We welcome all who wish to engage at any level in our missions, be it in planning or participating. We meet at 4:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month, virtually and/or in person, as public health conditions dictate.

Current Outreach Committee members:

Deacon Christine Bennett, Stan Eaton, Jennifer Gregg, Anne LaFond, Dana Madison, Vanessa Record and Bonny Rodden, with the critical support and initiatives of Judith and John Brooks, Marian McCue, Becky Pride, and Merle Marie Troeger.

We always welcome additional committee members and drop-ins of all ages (this is a great ministry for teens!). We meet as a committee monthly on the first Thursday at 4:30 pm. **Contact Jennifer Gregg**, jenniferanngregg@gmail.com

The Episcopal Church of Saint Mary

Outreach BEYOND THE LYCHGATE



*“Once we have found the God within...
we become connected to everything, to everyone.
We carry the whole world in our hearts...
Then, action and prayer are one.”*

Father Richard Rohr

43 Foreside Road, Falmouth, ME 04105
207-781-3366 smary@smary.org
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The Rev. Nathan Ferrell, Rector
The Rev. Christine Bennett, Deacon

2021-2022

Mission Opportunities

*As a lasting tribute to all victims of stigma, enjoy the beauty each spring of the "Hope Gardens" at Saint Mary's--500 tulips planted in 2020 by parishioners in support of **The Yellow Tulip Project** (www.yellowtulipproject.org) to remind us all of the perseverance of those dealing with stigma and the hope of renewal each spring.*

Becoming an Anti-Racist Parish

Learn, Acknowledge, Grow- Together

During last year's introduction to the nature and history of racism in our society through book groups and presentations on the many faces of stigma, it became clear that we cannot grow and change if we do not understand our societal history and how our racism presents itself to this day - often without our even being aware. This year, we will continue to offer reading suggestions in hopes of further expanding and deepening participation and conversation around this difficult subject. Joining forces with the Diocese, other Greater Portland Episcopal parishes and the Maine Historical Society, we hope to offer educational opportunities virtually and/or in person for the community, focusing on the history of racism in our country, state and church.

Contact Bonny Rodden, brodden1.br@gmail.com

Working with and Learning from the Recovery Community in Maine

Attend Round Table discussions on October 14, 2021 with **Casco Bay CAN**, (www.cascobaycan.org) that specializes in illegal substance use prevention. This Round Table discussion is oriented specifically to parents, grandparents and mentors of high school-aged children and adults, and will offer the latest information on illegal substance use and guidance for talking to young people and adults about the threat. This will be offered via zoom or in person, as public health dictates. **Contact Jennifer Gregg,** jenniferannregg@gmail.com

Throughout the year, join us in partnering with **Milestone Recovery** ([https://milestone-](https://milestone-recovery.org/)

[recovery.org/](https://milestone-recovery.org/)) as we work and break bread with Milestone residents during events such as spring and fall grounds clean-ups and Sparkles preparations. We hope such occasions will offer fruitful social interactions so badly needed by the Milestone residents and the equally needed opportunity for parishioners to put faces to the stories and statistics surrounding substance abuse disorder and better know the hows, whys and difficulties of those working to surmount this disease.

Outreach is also working with Milestone to establish a regular opportunity to cook and dine with residents of their newly established Women's Recovery House in Portland. Check the AVE and E-News for details as this partnership develops. **Contact Jennifer Gregg,** jenniferannregg@gmail.com

Serving and Learning from Families in Need

Contribute non-food essentials monthly (see list in AVE and e-news) to the marked box in the Guild Room Foyer. Volunteer with other Saint Marians at **St. Elizabeth's Jubilee Center**, (stlukesportland.org/index.php/st-elizabeths-jubilee-center-essentials-pantry/) in Portland on the third Tuesday morning of the month from 8:30 to noon, organizing and distributing non-food essentials to the most needy among us. Or help sort and transport the Saint Mary's contributions to St. Elizabeth's in Portland during the month! **Contact Stan Eaton,** stan.eaton@gmail.com

Participate in the **Saint Mary's "Souper Supper"** program which serves anyone from the greater Portland area, free of charge, a take-out dinner of soup, bread, dessert on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month. This is currently offered curbside from 5-6 but we hope to transition this year back to indoor sit-down dining from 5-7 in the Auditorium as public health permits. This ministry attracts parishioners who shop, cook, set-up, dish-up, distribute or clean-up. **Contact Jennifer Gregg,** jenniferannregg@gmail.com.

Volunteering with and donations of non-perishable foodstuffs to the **Falmouth Food Pantry** (<https://www.falmouthme.org/town-clerk/events/85114>) are currently on hold due to the pandemic. Financial donations to the Food Pantry are welcome and we continue our annual "Victory Garden" vegetable donations to benefit the Food Pantry each summer. **Contact Vanessa Record,** recordvanessa@gmail.com

Participate in the ecumenical **Cumberland Walk for Habitat for Humanity**, April 30, 2022 **Contact Jennifer Gregg,** jenniferannregg@gmail.com

Serving and Learning from At-Risk Youth

Serve as a "Foster Grandparent" with The Opportunity Alliance in Portland, if you are 55 and older, willing to provide documentation of a physical exam and pass criminal history and background checks. For more information: (<https://www.opportunityalliance.org/foster-grandparent-program>) **Contact Anne LaFond,** akblafond@gmail.com

Welcome, New Mainers: Serving and Learning from our Immigrant Community

Tutor and mentor (one on one) New Mainers in collaboration with **Learningworks**, (www.learningworks.me) where Saint Marians tutor literacy with adult students virtually and in person, as public health permits. **Contact Jennifer Gregg,** jenniferannregg@gmail.com.

Virtually tutor or assist adult New Mainers in virtual literacy classrooms with **Portland Adult Education**, (<http://portlandadulted.org>) All volunteers need to be zoom-saavy—including ability to "share" documents, with their own account. **Contact Anne LaFond,** akblafond@gmail.com

Shop and dine at the Saint Mary's **Spring "Multicultural Fair"** in May 2022, public health permitting. A special opportunity for New Mainer entrepreneurs to promote and sell their products, services, and to introduce us to their culture. A festive ethnic event, and a great opportunity to do some unique shopping! **Contact Anne LaFond,** akblafond@gmail.com

Stewardship of God's Creation

Participate in the **Coastal Clean-up** in Spring, 2022 following the church service! **Contact Bonny Rodden,** brodden1br@gmail.com

In concert with the Buildings and Grounds Committee, learn about and participate in **sustainable planting, gardening, recycling and composting** programs and sharing best practices in your homes and neighborhoods. *And when you use the Parish House, please compost and recycle!* **Contact Bonny Rodden,** brodden1.br@gmail.com